

The Caledonian Mercury.

Edinburgh, Monday, July 8, 1728.

From the Post Boy June, 27.

The Moscovites having two Sorts of Corporal Punishment, or rather Torture for great Offenders, peculiar to their Government, which we frequently meet with in the News Papers, under the Names of the Knut (or Knout) and the Pattock (or Bataog) and Prince Menzicoff, so lately Prime Minister of Russia, being now threatned with the Knut, it cannot be reckoned an unreasonable Digression from the Business of our Paper, in the present Scarcity of Foreign News, to give our Readers an Account of both those Punishments, as related by our ingenious Countryman and Engineer, Capt. John Perry, who lived many Years in the Czar's Dominions. And first for the Knout.

THE giving of the Knut, is not to be put in Execution but by the Form of a Trial, before some Governour or Judge, or by the Command of some great Man; and the Punishment is seldom executed but by the Hands of the common Hangman. The Knut is a thick hard Thong of Leather, of about 3 Foot and a half long, fastned to the End of a handsome Stick, about two Foot and a half long, with a Ring or Kind of Swivel like a Flail at the End of it, to which the Thong is fastned: There are two Ways of punishing with this Instrument; the first is for lesser Crimes, when the Man that has offended is hoisted up upon the back of another, with his Shirt stripped off, and the Hangman or Knout-voyt Master, strikes him so many Strokes on the bare back, as are appointed by the Judge, first making a Step back, and giving a Spring forward at every Stroke, which is laid on with that Force, that the Blood flies at every Stroke, and leaves a Wheal behind as thick as a Man's Finger, and these Masters, as the *Russ* call them, are so exact at their own Work, that they very rarely strike two Strokes in the same Place, but lay them on the whole Breadth of a Man's Back, by the Side of each other with great Dexterity, from the Top of the

Man's Shoulder down to the Wasteband of his Breeches.

The second and more severe Way of giving the Knut, (otherwise called the Pine) is, when a Man's Hands are tied together behind his Body, and then drawn up by a Rope tied to his Hands, whilst at same Time a great Weight is fixed to his Legs; and being thus hoisted up, his Shoulders turn out of Joint, and his Arms become right over his Head, which when done, with the Weight still hanging to his Feet, the Executioner is order'd to lay on so many Strokes as are appointed by the Judge, in Manner as I have before described. This Punishment is commonly executed very leisurely, and between whilles a Subdiakshick (or Writer) examines the Sufferer how far he is guilty of the Crimes he is accused of, or whether he has any Confidants, or is guilty of such other Crimes whereof he is then examined, such as treasonable Things or Robbery and Murders that the Authors are not known. This being done, they are taken down, and their Arms put into Joint again by the Hangman, and then perhaps dismissed or sent back to Prison.

But if the Crime, whereof any Person is accused, be accounted Capital, and such as deserveth Death then there is a farther Punishment; there is a Fire-just by the Gallows, and after the Offender (for it does not always prove that they are Criminal) is taken down from the Punishment, and denies the Fact or any Part whereof he is accused, then his Hands and Feet are ty'd, and he is fixed upon a long Pole as upon a Spit, which being held at each End by two Men, the Person that stands charged with Guilt, has his raw back roasted over the Fire, and is there examined and called upon by a Writer to confess. The Writer takes down in Writing all the Answers he makes, and if any Person charged with any Capital Crime, in case when the Proof is not clear against them, cannot stand out this Variety of Punishment three several Times, which



which is order'd perhaps three or four Weeks one after the other, without confessing Guilt; or if his Answers that he has made in the Time of his Punishment are not judged clear and Satisfactory, he must after all this Torture suffer Death; but if he is so hardy as to stand it all out, without owning himself, or being otherwise proved guilty, he is acquitted.

The Punishment by Way of *Bataogs* is after this Manner. The Person to be punished is laid down flat on his Face with his Back all bare, and his Legs and Arms extended out, and two Persons are appointed to whip him on his Back with *Bataogs*, which are Sticks or Rods at least the Thickness of a Man's little Finger; one of them Places himself at the Person's Head between his Knees, whilst the other kneels upon the Offender's Legs; and sometimes if he struggles and does not take it patiently, two other Persons are appointed to his Hands to keep them down and extended, whilst the two placed at his Head and Feet, continue striking his bare Back with their *Bataogs*, keeping Time as the Smiths do at an Anvil, till their Rods are broken in Pieces, and then they take fresh ones and keep striking on, altho' their Backs are all bruised and raw, until the Person who stands by and directs the Punishment says it is enough, which is sometimes more and sometimes less severe: Both Lords and Peasants suffer this Kind of Punishment, and sometimes it is done with that Severity, that People die of it; yet the Power of this Sort of Punishment is lodged with all Persons that have the Superiority over others, as Lords, Gentlemen, Officers or Masters, who on any Displeasure or pretended Fault, without any Form of Trial but Will, may exercise this Piece of Cruelty: And there are two Things always to be observed in this Way of Punishment; the first is, That the Person so punished must cry out *Vinavat*, that is, must come and fall down on his Hands and his Knees, and knock his Forehead on the Ground, at the Feet of the Person who directs the Punishment, and thank him for the Favour that he has been beat no more; and 'tis very common to have Subdiacicks, and Men in other such like Posts, often to receive this Sort of Punishment with the *Bataogs*, and yet to be continued in their Places; it being not the Way of Russia to turn Men out for the lesser Crimes

and Knavish Tricks they are guilty of, but only to inflict Corporal Punishment upon them, or to degrade them and put them in lower Places.

From the Whitehall Evening Post, June 29.

Madrid, June 17. Count Montemar having made a Report to the King of the Situation of Affairs at Gibraltar, is gone to Saragossa, to review the Troops, as Inspector General of the Cavalry.

Cadix, June 15. Yesterday arrived here 5 Dutch Men of War and three Store Ships in 26 Days from Amsterdam; they are bound to Algier with Presents, and to renew their Treaty with that People. A Tartan arrived here three Days ago from Salee, but was ordered out of Port again, The Master reported, That some Days before he came from thence three Rovers put to Sea, one of 18, one of 14, and one of 10 Guns. with Orders to take all Ships they could overcome. All Ships arriving here from the North are to perform a Quarentaine of 20 Days, and their Goods are to be sent to a Lazaretto; those from Genoa and Leghorn 40 Days; but from the Levant and Barbary, none are to be admitted. An English Ship, name *The first Adventure*, Jacob Grant Master, which arrived here the 13th from Leith, is put under Quarentaine.

London, June 29. Last Letters from Gibraltar say, That they had Advice from Barbary, that the new Emperor had made a Declaration of his being resolved to live in Friendship with the English: Therefore it is hoped, That the Rovers mentioned in the Article from Cadix, have Orders not to disturb the English Navigation.

Wye's Letter, verbatim, London, July 2.

Since our last arrived a Mail from Holland, and one from France.

AN Account of Gold and Silver coined at his Majesty's Mint from the 20th of November 1717 to the 15th of March 1727, viz. In Gold, 96574 Pound-weight, which makes 4634652 Pound sterl. In Silver, 69922 Pound-weight; remained uncoined the 3d of April last, when the above Account was presented, in Gold, 520 Pound-weight, and in Silver, 211 Pound weight.

The Advices from Genoa by the Holland Mail pretend, That Cardinal Alberoni embarked there the

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the 11th past on board a Ship carrying English Colours; and that his Eminency had gone to Spain, to put himself again at the Head of Affairs in that Kingdom. But this is generally look'd upon to have been wrought up by the Contrivance of some Jews here, who, with others of the Stock-jobbers, are noted for forging and spreading false Accounts of Affairs abroad, in order to answer their vile Purposes.

There's a Letter by the said Mail from Soissons, of the 1st Instant, which says there has been no Dispute about Precedency, nor any warm Disputes in the Congress between any of the Plenipotentiaries, as has been reported.

The said Letter tells us, That nothing material has pass'd in the Conferences, except in that of the Day before the Date; which was held extraordinarily, at the Request of the Dutch Ambassadors-plenipotentiary, who delivered to those of the Emperor and the King of Spain, a Memorial touching the Demands of their High Mightinesses: And that the Ministers of his Catholick Majesty had deferred giving in theirs till the Return of an Express sent to Madrid. What their Pretensions or Demands will consist of, is of no small Inquiry, because by them, 'tis thought, we may in some measure be able to form a Judgment concerning the Issue.

As to the Ambassadors Plenipotentiary of Great Britain, we are told by a Letter from Soissons the 2d Inst. That his Excellency Mr. Stanhope, who has hired a Country House 3 Miles from thence, entertained there at Dinner the Day before Date, their Excellencies Mr. Stanhope and Mr. Pointz; after which Mr. Walpole set out for Paris. From whence he will not return in less than 12 or 14 Days.

Great Discourse is made with respect to the condemning the South-Sea Ship Royal George at Antegoa; and 'tis believed a Law suit will commence between the Gentlemen Insurers and the said Company on that Affair.

Yesterday came on the Trial at Guildhall before the Lord Justice Raymond, of several Informations ordered by the Court of King's Bench, against John Gumly Junior, Esq; John Beechly his Servant, and Henry Watson, for a Riot in assaulting and wounding Mr. Wilkins the Printer some Months

ago at the Crown Tavern in Smithfield; and after hearing Council and examining Witnesses, and some Arguments, Whether the Assault was the Effect of premeditated Malice; to which End, the Court and Jury viewed the Stick made use of in wounding Mr. Wilkins: And it appearing to be of an uncommon Size, being as large as a Man's Wrist, and the Knot much larger, the Jury thereupon immediately found all the Informations, and Mr. Wilkins to bring his Action of Damages: which 'tis supposed will be tried next Sessions.

Tomorrow there will be a Council at Hampton Court; and in the Evening a Drawing Room.

'Tis said his Grace the Duke of Chandos is made Clerk of the Hamper, a Place worth about 1500 l. per annum.

Their Majesties and the Royal Family are all in good Health; and a perfect Harmony in the Ministry, whose glorious Endeavours for the Good and Welfare of the Nation, will in due Time be crowned with success, notwithstanding the Reflections that have been made by some People.

A Ship arriv'd from Gibraltar gives an Account, That a Report runs there that the Saltee Men have broke their Truce with England; and 'twas fear'd the same would come confirmed.

From the Evening Post, July 2.

Bologna, June 22. Saturday last the Chevalier de St. George returned from Parma with his eldest Son, highly satisfied with the good Reception he met with at that Court. Before he came away, his said Son paid a Visit to the Dutches Dowager of Parma at Placentia, who received him with much Tenderness, and presented him with a Set of Silver Plate, a Gold Snuff box, with a Diamond valued at 4000 Pistoles, and another set with Rubies of great Value. The Princess Clementina enjoys a perfect Health in her Pregnancy.

Petersburg, June 11. They write from Moscow, That his Imperial Majesty will not return hither before Autumn. Two Days ago the Ship called Peter, of 54 Guns, was launched here; another which carries 110 Guns, and was built here the last Year, is to be shortly carried to Cronstadt upon Machines contriv'd for that Use. The Squadron of 6 or 7 Men of War which have been fitted up at Revel,

Revel, are to convoy the Gallies which are to convoy the Troops to divers Places, the Garisons whereof are to be changed.

Edinburgh, July 8. Friday last General Wade reviewed the Garison and Stores of the Castle, on which Occasion there was a Round of great Guns.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

¶ Whereas WILLIAM DEANE, *Silk Dyer and Linen Printer*, at Canongate Head Edinburgh, having last Year met with suitable Encouragement, and given general Proof of his Colours washing to Perfection, to the Satisfaction of all his Employers, has now furnished himself with a Collection of the newest and nicest Prints from London, which are added to his former Pattern Books, and are to be seen in their proper Colours, at the Post-Offices of Inverness, Aberdeen, Montrose, Glasgow, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Coupar in Fife, Borrowstouness, Haddington, and at the said William Dean's House, at which Places any Person may make choice of the Pattern they fancy, and mark their Piece or pieces of Linen, with their Name and Number of the Pattern: When sent in their Goods by a safe Hand, they shall be done with all possible Speed, to the utmost Perfection, at the usual Prices he did them for last Year. 'Tis to be observed, these Colours can only be done during the Summer Season; so the sooner the Goods are sent in, they'll have the better Advantage of the Sun, they being all bleached after Printing.

¶ At EDINBURGH, on Wednesday the 16th Day of October next, the Professors of Medicine will open their usual Colleges on the following Branches of Medicine, which make up a complete Systeme of that Science, viz.

ANATOMY, human and comparative, Chirurgical Operations and Bandages, by Alexander Monro P. A. & F. & S. in the Anatomical Theatre of the University.

MATERIA MEDICA, & methodus prescribendi, by Dr. Charles Allston, P. B. R. & Pr. Simpl. in the Physician's Hall; who also in the Summer teaches Botany in the Physick Garden.

The INSTITUTIONS of Medicine explained and illustrated by Dr. Andrew St. Clair and Dr. John Rutherford Med. Theor. & Pract. P. B.

The PRACTICE of Medicine in external and internal Diseases, delivered by Drs. John Innes and Dr. Andrew Rimmer, Med. & Chem. I. P.

A complete Course of CHEMISTRY, Theoretical and Experimental, demonstrated by the said four Professors.

These three Parts of Medicine are taught in the Chymical Laboratory adjoining to the University.

¶ That there having been no Assemblies in the Month of June last, it is resolved, at the desire of several Ladies and Gentlemen, That there be an Assembly Thursday next 14th current, and on every Thursday this Month, and on the first Thursday of August. And its desired and expected, That the Ladies and Gentlemen will comply with the Resolution of February 12th, recommending to the Ladies and Gentlemen, that they would be pleased to appear at the Assembly on the last Thursday of July current dressed and

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apparelled in the Manufacture of this Country, &c. as the Advertisement thereunto bears.

¶ These are to give Notice, That upon Friday the 12th Day of this instant Month of July, betwixt two and four a clock in the Afternoon, there is to be exposed to Sale by Way of publick voluntary Roup by the Trustees of the Creditors of Mr. John Fairholm of Baberton, within the Dwellinghouse of James Fullarton Vintner in Edinburgh, on the North Side of the Street opposite to the Cross, the whole Corns and Cropt of all Kinds, with the Meadow and other Hay at Baberton, growing upon the Lands, Mains, Inclosures and others presently posselt by the said Mr. John Fairholm this Year 1728; as also at the same Time and Place, the saids Trustees are to set in Tack by Way of voluntary Roup for one Year, the Mansionhouse of Baberton, with the whole Officehouses and Gardens thereto belonging, and likewise the Lands and Mains of Baberton, Inclosures and other Lands, Meadows, and Grass that were in the Possession of the said Mr. John Fairholm, and that either in whole Sale or in Parcels, the Entry to the Labouring of the Land to be at the Separation of this present Cropt from the Ground, and to the Grass at Whitunday next 1729, and to the Mansionhouse and Office Houses, Gardens and Pertinents immediately after the Roup. The Estimate of the Cropt and Hay to be sold, and Rental of the Houses, Gardens and Lands to be set in Tack, and Conditions of the Roup are to be seen in the Hands of James Ramsay Writer to the Signet, Clerk to the said Trustees, at his Writing Chamber first Turnpike within the Head of Sir James Sturts Close any Day before the Roup.

¶ By Order of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, there is to be exposed to Sale at Leith, on Wednesday the 17th July next, five Parcels of Exciseable Goods and Tobacco, condemned in the Court of Exchequer in Whitunday Term last. The particular List of Goods and the Goods themselves to be seen at the Customhouse, in Customhouse Hours the Day immediately before the Sale, and are to be sold between twelve and one the Day of the Sale. There is likewise a Parcel of India Silks condemned in the same Term, to be exposed to Sale for Exportation, and to be seen as before.

¶ That the Parks of Nisbet, containing about Three Plough-gang of Land, inclosed and divided by a stone and Lime Dike, with a good Dwellinghouse two stories high, and convenient Officehouses for a Farmer; As also, Four Plough-gang of Land not inclosed, having good Onheads and proper Officehouses; all belonging to Sir Harry Nisbet of Dean, and within a Mile of Edinburgh: Are immediately to be set in Tack to 2 or 3 different Tenants for the ensuing Cropt 1729, at a reasonable Rent, and for such Space as can be best agreed on. The Rental and Conditions of the Tacks to be seen in the Hands of Archibald Stuart Writer to the signet, opposite to the Tolbooth: And any Tenant enquiring for Robert Henderson, Grieve at Dean, will be attended by him in viewing the Ground.

N.B. The above Plough-gangs of Land, for these 4 or 5 Cropts past, have been in the Hands of Sir John Nisbet of Dean, deceased, and were by him brought into perfect good Order for Tenantry. There are several Houses and Yards also to be set at Dean.

EDINBURGH: Printed for Mr. William Rolland, by Mr. Thomas Ruddimen. Sold at the Printing-house, and at Mr. Alex. Symmers's Shop in the Parliament-Close. At both which Places, Advertisements and Subscriptions are taken in.